

## UAE urges anti-AIDS battle

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) Saturday called for a world-wide drive to combat AIDS, which Health Minister Hamad Abdul Rahman Al Madfa branded "a threat to mankind." The UAE pledged its resources to support a global campaign against the killer disease. "We extend our hands, rally our efforts and pledge support to the scientists, the researchers and the medical teams who are working on efforts to discover an effective vaccine against this disease," he said in opening an international conference on AIDS attended by 149 specialists from around the world. "It beehives us all to pursue all efforts, in collaboration with our brethren and friends in other countries and in cooperation with the World Health Organisation to stem its tide and control its spread." "Inter-personal relations and behaviour, which have emerged as the primary mode of transmission of this epidemic, have controls and limits in our religion," he said. The conference offers the first such open discussion in the UAE and the second in the Gulf. Kuwait sponsored an AIDS forum in February.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية. الراي.

## Cabinet okays oil accord annex

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet held a regular session Saturday under Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and ratified an annex of the cooperation agreement signed with a Canadian government petroleum agency in the field of oil exploration. The annex provides for increasing the value of the agreement by JD 13 million and extending its validity until 1990. The Cabinet also ratified regulations on forming an Islamic court in Al Rwaish district, on a Public Security Department personnel welfare committee, on organising the Ministry of Youth, on the Jordan Olympic Committee laws, on charitable federations, and on Water Authority of Jordan employees. The Cabinet also approved a law governing costs of treatment at hospitals and centres affiliated with the Ministry of Health. The law sets 400 fils as the price of every item of medicine available at the centres. Anti-fever medicines are exempt from this ceiling and will be available for 150 fils per item.

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## AROUND THE WORLD...

### Israeli Arab diplomat clarifies remarks

ATLANTA (AP) — Israel's consul general in Atlanta, Mohammad Musarwa, has moved to defuse the controversy over his call for a "homeland" for the Palestinian people. "When I used the word 'homeland,' I did not mean an independent Palestinian state but rather a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation solution," Musarwa said Thursday. Musarwa, the first Israeli Arab ever appointed to a diplomatic post, used the term in a speech June 30 before the Atlanta chapter of the United Nations Association. "Neither Likud nor Labour are talking about a state or a homeland," said Yossi Gar, spokesman for the Israeli embassy in Washington, indicating that Musarwa's clarification indicated he had "no intention" of going beyond the government's present consensus.

### U.N. awarded Palme prize

STOCKHOLM (AP) — The Olof Palme Memorial Foundation has awarded its Public Service Prize to the United Nations, and Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar will collect the award later this year. Foreign Minister Sten Andersson, who also is chairman of the foundation, suggested Friday the 100,000-kronor (\$16,000) prize should finance studies of U.N. activities. The date for the prize ceremony was not immediately announced. Perez de Cuellar was due in nearby Oslo, Norway, for a Dec. 10 ceremony to receive the 1988 Nobel Peace Prize, which was awarded to the U.N. peacekeeping forces Thursday.

### Top Vietnamese revolutionary dies

BANGKOK (AP) — Truong Chinh, one of Vietnam's veteran revolutionaries and former head of its Communist Party, died at the age of 81, the Vietnam News Agency said Saturday. The news agency said Chinh died at his Hanoi home Friday of severe hemorrhaging more than one hour after an accidental fall. One of the last of Vietnam's passing generation of communist revolutionaries, the headline Chinh was replaced as general secretary of the Communist Party in December 1986 by reform-minded Nguyen Van Linh. He was since served as an advisor to the party.

### Mulroney seeks new mandate in November

OTTAWA (R) — Conservative Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, putting his controversial free trade agreement with the United States on the line, Saturday announced a general election for Nov. 21. Mulroney's widely-expected announcement came two days after the latest public opinion poll showed that the Conservatives could win a majority over the opposition Liberals and New Democratic Party. The prime minister made the announcement after emerging from a brief meeting with Canada's Governor General Jeanne Sauve who formally granted him permission to dissolve parliament.

### U.S.: Arafat has not applied for visa

WASHINGTON (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has not applied for a U.S. entry visa for attending the U.N. General Assembly, the State Department said. Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley Friday also told reporters she was not aware of any recent consultations on the matter between the State Department and major U.S. Jewish organisations opposing a visit by the PLO leader. Oakley said there would be no comment on how the government would respond if Arafat should apply for entry.

### Israeli mission upgraded in Warsaw

WARSAW (AP) — Israel's diplomatic mission in Warsaw dropped formal links with the Dutch embassy and became independent Friday. Israel had been operating a separate interest section in Warsaw since September 1986, but until now it was officially linked to The Netherlands embassy because Israel and Poland do not have full diplomatic relations.

### Oslo police arrest 4 Palestinians

OSLO (R) — Four Palestinians and a Syrian have been arrested in Norway on charges of entering the country under false pretences. Oslo police said Saturday. Inspector Tor Skriverhaug, who led the operation, was quoted by the daily Aftenposten as saying police suspected that the five men intended to build an underground group linked to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The Arabs, said to be in their early 20s, have not been named. Police said they were arrested several weeks ago.

### Papandreou well after heart surgery

HAREFIELD (AP) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou was reported in satisfactory condition Saturday after successfully undergoing a heart operation, his surgeon said. The 69-year-old Greek leader remained in Harefield hospital's intensive care unit following the six-hour operation, according to Dr. Magdi Yacoub, who led the surgical team.

### Strike in Armenia cost \$45 million

MOSCOW (AP) — Ten days of strikes in the Armenian capital of Yerevan triggered by ethnic strife have cost the country 25 million rubles (\$45 million) in lost production, the official Soviet news agency TASS said Friday. Hundreds of thousands of people have been demonstrating and participating in general strikes in the southern Soviet republic, demanding annexation of Nagorno-Karabakh.

### Benn challenges Kinnock for leadership

LONDON (AP) — The Labour Party starts its annual convention Sunday with a leadership challenge by Tony Benn, doyen of the radical left, that has reopened divisions in the socialist movement. Nobody doubts that party leader Neil Kinnock will shrug off the bid by Benn, a former energy secretary whose opposition to capitalism mirrors Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's crusade against socialism. But Benn's six-month campaign has underlined the divide between moderates and radicals and forced Kinnock into reaffirming Labour's pledge to ban nuclear weapons — a vote-losing policy he had tried to dump. Benn, 63, an aristocrat who renounced his hereditary title, sees his challenge as the last chance to block major proposed policy changes which will shift Labour towards the centre.

### Bonn: No radiation from Soviet satellite

BONN (R) — The nuclear core of an errant Soviet satellite has broken free into an orbit in outer space and will pose no radiation threat anywhere on earth, the West German government said Saturday. The non-radioactive payload of the Cosmos 1900 satellite was likely to burn in the upper atmosphere during Saturday and would not be passing over any European country during that time, the Interior Ministry said. It said West German researchers determined that the Cosmos' nuclear reactor automatically separated from the satellite's main body at 2100 GMT Friday and settled into an orbit of 800 kilometres above earth. The Soviet Union denied earlier there would be any danger of radiation from the rogue satellite when it finally reentered the atmosphere. Ground control of the orbiting Cosmos 1900 was lost several months ago.



RECORD VICTORY: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday receives a trophy from Her Majesty Queen Noor for his record-setting win Friday of the Tal Al Rumman Hill Climb. His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah came second in the race and George Khayat third. The prize-giving ceremony was held at the Royal Automobile Club (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

## King briefed on work of Higher Council for Science and Technology

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday visited the Higher Council of Science and Technology, inspected work at the council and familiarised himself with its duties and responsibilities.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan briefed the King on the council's plans and its relations with the concerned ministries and institutions within the Kingdom and similar institutions abroad.

He also reviewed the council's plans to pursue research and acquire technology.

The King was also briefed on the council's programmes for developing computer services.

The King expressed appreciation for the council's efforts in its first year of establishment and voiced hope that it would continue such efforts.

The King was accompanied by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Oasem, Court Minister Adnan Abo Odah, and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker.

## Hebron begins 3-day strike to protest killings

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians in the occupied West Bank town of Hebron began a three-day strike Saturday in mourning over the deaths of two Palestinians killed in clashes with Israeli settlers and soldiers the previous day.

Residents described the atmosphere as tense in the town as shops and transport closed and reports said Jewish settlers armed with stones smashed the windows of several Palestinian-owned cars.

Hebron was closed to the press for the second straight day and part of it was under cordon.

Residents called the strike after troops and settlers killed two Palestinians Friday in incidents sparked by clashes between stone-throwing anti-occupation protesters and Israeli settlers who fired guns.

More than 50 people were hurt when a helicopter dropped tear gas on a nationalist funeral for one of the dead Palestinians, and residents said two teenagers were injured by army gunfire during clashes that continued into the night.

About 50 Palestinian women staged a sit-in at the Red Cross building to protest against the killings.

Another three Hebron Palestinians were wounded in related clashes and 18 Palestinians were shot in separate incidents throughout the occupied territories Friday.

## Kremlin leader consolidates power, pledges decisive reform

# Gorbachev elected Soviet president

MOSCOW (AGENCIES) — Soviet Communist Party leader Mikhail Gorbachev was appointed to the additional post of state president Saturday and immediately pledged "energetic and decisive steps" in reform.

Gorbachev's unanimous election to the presidency in the place of 79-year-old Andrei Gromyko came at an urgently-called 45-minute session of the Supreme Soviet, the country's parliament.

"What we need now is practical movement forward," he told the 1,500 deputies. "The people understand our work but demand more energetic and decisive steps."

Saturday's Supreme Soviet session followed by one day an extraordinary meeting of the Communist Party Central Committee at which Gorbachev dramatically streamlined the party apparatus and rammed through the biggest personnel changes in his 3½ years in power.

Gorbachev told the deputies of the national parliament that it was time for local government bodies to take on more responsibility.

"The Soviets must become the highest authority on their territory and eliminate the shortcomings of stagnation," Gorbachev said. "The party will facilitate the enhancement of the role of the

Soviets."

"The Soviets will take on their shoulders the major burden of state work," he said. "As the situation changes, we must change accordingly."

When selected party leader in March 1985, Gorbachev chose not to take the top government job, as his predecessors had. Instead, four months later Gromyko was named to the largely ceremonial post of president, ending his 25 years as Soviet foreign minister.

But in June, Gorbachev proposed creation of a new, more powerful presidency in line with his efforts to strengthen the government and limit the Communist Party's involvement in day-to-day management.



Mikhail Gorbachev

(Continued on page 5)

## Iraq, Iran cautiously optimistic over talks

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The Iranian and Iraqi foreign ministers offered no hint of progress in their deadlocked peace talks, but both expressed cautious optimism about the negotiations on the eve of their face-to-face meeting Saturday.

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar was to advance proposals in an effort to break the stalemate, said Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias, who met separately with the two foreign ministers Friday.

Perez de Cuellar and his special representative to the talks, Swedish U.N. Ambassador Jan K. Eliasson, also held separate meetings Friday evening with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati.

The four were to meet Saturday afternoon for the first round of direct talks between Aziz and Velayati since the last series of stalemated negotiations ended in Geneva Sept. 13. The meeting was to be held under airtight security.

When the Geneva talks halted, Iraq demanded that the next step must be that the Shatt Al Arab waterway dividing the two countries be cleared of sunken ships and silt so it is navigable again. The waterway is Iraq's only outlet to the Gulf.

Iran insisted that the remaining provisions of Security Council Resolution 598 of 1987 must be implemented before other issues are dealt with.

The two belligerents have observed a truce since Aug. 20, the first provision of Resolution 598. Five days later, the two countries opened the peace talks, another provision of the resolution.

The remaining requirements of 598 call for withdrawal of forces to the border, which is generally where the forces are now located; exchange of prisoners of war; continued peace talks to settle their differences; and appointment of an impartial commission to apportion blame for the outbreak of the war.

Papoulias said after his meetings with Velayati and Aziz Friday that he discussed the war with both men.

(Continued on page 4)

## Lawzi urges support for peace initiatives

AMMAN (Petra) — Upper House of Parliament (Senate) Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi Saturday urged a visiting delegation from the National Defence College of Britain to convey to their countries the facts and reality of the situation in the Middle East and to seek support for peace initiatives to solve the Palestine problem.

Jordan, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein, has been striving for a just and comprehensive Middle East peace based on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, Lawzi said at the meeting with the delegation, which groups students and teachers from the United Kingdom, Europe, the United States and the Commonwealth.

Jordan demands the convening of an international peace conference with the participation of all concerned parties and the Security Council's permanent member nations so that genuine peace can be established, Lawzi said.

The Arab countries, he said, have opted for peace through their 1982 Arab summit resolutions, which recognised the rights of all people in the region to live in peace, security and stability.

Lawzi said that Jordan's decision to sever its legal and administrative links with the occupied West Bank was dictated by circumstances and developments in the Arab and international arenas with regard to Palestine and the rights of the Palestinian people to resist Israel's occupation and regain their legitimate rights in their own homeland.

The ongoing uprising in Palestine is designed to achieve these

(Continued on page 4)

## Lebanon tension rises after Aoun 'warning'

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Tension remained high in Lebanon Saturday after the head of the military government warned that he would use his army to fight all rival forces in the country after a day of clashes with militiamen of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP).

General Michel Aoun, whose government is vying for power with the civilian cabinet of acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss, has said he wants brotherly relations with Syria, the main powerbroker in Lebanon.

"I am trying to contain attempts of military escalation by those who have decided to resort to such a step," he told Reuters Friday hours after troops and PSP militiamen clashed near Beirut.

Aoun, Lebanon's army chief named to head the military government last month by outgoing President Amin Gemayel, added: "Let this be a direct message."

The daily Al Nahar said "behind-the-scenes contacts are currently

(Continued on page 4)

## Botha goes courting black African states

GBADOLITE, Zaire (Agencies) — South Africa launched its most ambitious diplomatic initiative in black Africa Saturday when President P.W. Botha flew to a remote jungle palace in northwest Zaire.

Botha, whose country has long been shunned by black-ruled states because of its apartheid race policies, met President Mobutu Sese Seko for talks on Angola's civil war and independence for South African-ruled Namibia.

Botha said Mobutu had accepted an invitation to visit Pretoria at a date yet to be fixed.

Botha also issued a similar invitation to President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique, a long-time adversary of South Africa, after their meeting Sept. 13 in Mozambique and he accepted. Again, no date was set.

A visit by either Mobutu or Chissano would be the first state

visit by a black African leader to South Africa since Botha took power in 1978.

"We see peace for all of Africa," Botha said as he was greeted by Mobutu.

The visit put relations between Kinshasa and Pretoria "on a new path," Mobutu told reporters after two hours of talks.

The meeting, the first between the two leaders, was held in the marble-lined palace at Gbadolite, Mobutu's ancestral village now described by visitors as a Versailles in the jungle.

At the same time in nearby Gabon three black African presidents held a parallel summit on southern Africa. The leaders of Angola, Gabon and Congo met in Franceville to discuss how to end the war between Angola's government and Western-backed UNITA rebels who have waged a 13-year guerrilla campaign reflecting superpower rivalry.



Palestinians wave flags and chant anti-Israeli slogans at the funeral of former Gaza City Mayor Rashad Shawa Thursday.







## Jordan to mark Prophet's birthday with festivities

AMMAN (Petra) — A national committee organising ceremonies and festivities to mark the Prophet Mohammad's birthday, which falls on Oct. 23, Saturday, decided on a number of activities and functions to be held on the holy occasion.

The committee which met under the chairmanship of Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat said that the main event will be held at Al Hussein Youth City Palace of Culture on Oct. 23 while a grand military ceremony will be organised at Al Hussein Mosque downtown Amman on the following day.

A book exhibition will be held at the Amman municipality library and at two other public libraries in Qwasmeih and Basman, and a public garden will be formally inaugurated at Al Muqablein near Amman on that occasion, according to a committee statement after the meeting.

The statement said that the occasion will mark the start of a week-long cleanliness campaign at mosques around the country in cooperation with girl guides and special school sessions on Oct. 23.

The committee last month decided that trips by school children to the tombs of the Prophet's Companions and several plays and competitions will be organised while contributions will be collected for charity.



**PAKISTANI EXHIBITION:** Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday opened an exhibition of Pakistani fashion and products at the Palace of Culture in Al Hussein Sports City. The opening ceremony was attended by Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath, Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Faisal, Her Highness Princess Wijdan Ali, and the Pakistani ambassador in Amman. The proceeds of the three-day exhibition will be devoted to supporting the handicapped children's programme in Jordan (Petra).

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**CONGRATULATIONS:** His Majesty King Hussein Saturday cabled congratulations to Guinean President Lansana Conte on Guinea's National Day. The King wished the Guinean president good health and the Guinean people continued progress and prosperity (Petra).

**ROYAL DECREE:** A Royal Decree was issued Saturday approving an amendment to the Civil Service Law concerning higher posts at the Royal Court. The amendment created the post of His Majesty the King's private chamberlain (Petra).

**HAMZEH LEAVES FOR GENEVA:** Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh left for Geneva Saturday to take part in a meeting organised by the World Health Organisation (WHO) for countries in the East Mediterranean region. Hamzeh will chair a meeting by Arab health ministers in Geneva to coordinate Arab views at the coming meeting (Petra).

**ENVOY TO DAMASCUS:** Syrian President Hafez Al Assad Saturday received the credentials of new Jordanian Ambassador Nayef Al Hadid who conveyed His Majesty King Hussein's good wishes. The Syrian president wished the ambassador success in his mission (Petra).

## Khleifat to open book exhibition on sports

AMMAN (J.T.) — Under the patronage of Minister of Youth Dr. Awad Khleifat the American Cultural Centre in Amman will host a book exhibition on the Olympic Games from Oct. 3-6, 1988, entitled "The Individual, Sport, and the Olympic Games".

The exhibit, which will be held at the Palace of Culture, Al-Husseini Youth City, consists of two hundred American publications dealing with themes relevant to the Olympic Games, including Olympic history, physical education, sports education, and training techniques.

The opening will be held Monday, Oct. 3, at 5:00 p.m. The exhibit will remain open until Thursday, Oct. 6.

## Prince Mohammad marks birthday

AMMAN (Petra) — Today marks the birthday of His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein. Prince Mohammad, who was born on Oct. 2, 1940 in Amman, obtained his elementary education at the Islamic College and then joined an educational institute in Switzerland to continue his studies.

Later, Prince Mohammad joined a well-known military college in the United Kingdom and the military college in Baghdad. Prince Mohammad became Regent on several occasions during the King's absence abroad and has served in a number of posts upon the directives of King Hussein.

Prince Mohammad is keenly interested in tourism and pursues efforts aimed at activating Jordan's tourism industry. In 1977, King Hussein entrusted Prince Mohammad with chairing the higher tourism committee with the purpose of promoting its activities.

Prince Mohammad is president of the Jordan Royal Shooting Club and the Jordanian Chess Federation.



HRH Prince Mohammad

## Jordan prepares wide range of activities to mark Arab Child Day

By Sana Atiyeh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — From Irbid in the north to Aqaba in the south, the Kingdom will celebrate Arab Child Day for nine days beginning on Oct. 3, when various activities for children and adults alike will take place under the slogan "The development and protection of children — a national priority."

Under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, the celebrations range from children's art exhibitions, different contests and entertainment to educational field trips, seminars and lectures. The activities aim to educate the public on the importance of child care and development, and improve and increase facilities and services for children in Jordan, according to a press release from the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF).

The activities also aim to stress the importance of family participation in child development, along with concerned government sectors to support different institutions in this field. In addition, the programme's objective is to highlight the different services for children in Jordan and pinpoint the deficiencies.

During this celebration, some of the projects will be opened to eliminate activities throughout the year, and to have children participate in serving the environment and society. These activities also aim to provide cultural, social and health awareness programmes, as well as entertainment, throughout the nine days.

The celebrations are organised by the permanent preparatory committee, headed by the NHF Director In'am Al Mufli, and include representatives from six concerned ministries, other private, public and international organisations.

Children's art and book exhibitions will take place at public and private schools, as well as United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) schools, and Armed Forces schools, where artwork produced by children up to 15 years of age will be displayed. Similar exhibitions will also take place at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation, the five branches of Friends of the Children

Society around the country, the NHF Centre in Aqaba, in Mafrag and Salt. Educational games will be displayed in every governorate in Jordan.

In addition to the exhibitions, artistic and theatrical performances, as well as scientific contests will take place in different cities and towns.

The branches of the Hayat Art Centre (HAC) will hold an art and folklore festival with the participation of children from social development institutions. A children's play, entitled "Nus Nseis," will perform at the Friends of the Children Club, and "flying carpet" — a puppet show — at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation.

There will also be puppet shows in Salt, a children's artistic performance at NHF in Aqaba, contests for outstanding students at the Friends of the Children Society branches, and various competitions will take place at the S.O.S. Village with the participation of children from social development institutions.

For the Arab Child Day, which falls on the first Monday of every October, a children's cultural centre will be opened in Maqra, as well as the seventh cultural centre of the Friends of the Children Society at Baqa'a Refugee Camp.

Also on this occasion, field trips for children will be organised by schools and institutions. Children will visit parks, libraries, cultural centres and museums throughout the Kingdom with the aim of encouraging educational and social institutions to organise group visits to such places. They will also visit children's sections in hospitals, and those in Aqaba will visit the Marine Science Station. Special programme will be held for handicapped children from government institutions which will include field trips.

There are special programmes for private and public school children and scouts to encourage the participation of a clean environment. They will take part in cleaning their schools and local surroundings, including the streets of their towns and villages, and beautifying and decorating public service premises.

The School Health Department of the Ministry of Education will provide health services for children in remote and rural areas of Jordan during these nine days.

## Doctors, technicians leave for Sudan

## New relief team to study locust plague in Sudan

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Jordan Saturday dispatched its sixth mission of doctors and technicians with relief supplies and medical equipment to Sudan to help relieve the Arah African country from the consequences of floods.

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh deputised for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in bidding farewell to the mission which will replace another team of Jordanian doctors and technicians working at the Faqih Hashem region in Khartoum, an area badly ravaged by the recent floods.

He said that the team will acquire experience that would not doubt contribute to the Kingdom's own preparations to confront the danger of locusts.

The Jordanian team is carrying 15 tonnes of medical appliances, relief supplies, and equipment for schools.

The 16th Jordanian mission, sent to relieve the Sudanese people as a result of the drought and

famine, is still working at Al Kass Hospital in western Sudan, and will be replaced by the 17th mission on Oct. 10 at the latest.

Last week, reports spoke of millions of locusts invading the Sudanese capital causing extensive damage to crops. Earlier, torrential rains caused disastrous floods in Khartoum, and experts said the greening of normally barren desert areas created perfect breeding grounds for locusts.

Last month Sudan's agriculture minister said the threat presented by the locusts had entered a critical stage, and his country lacked sufficient insecticides or equipment to spray all agricultural lands facing the invasion.

The mission which flew Saturday to Khartoum was seen off at the airport by committee's rapporteur Abdul Salam Al Abhadi and Health Ministry officials.



A Royal Jordanian Air Force carrier prepares to take off as a new Jordanian team leaves for Sudan to study the plague of locusts which succeeded the flood (Petra photo)

## Department to continue support for refugees

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Department of Palestinian Affairs, which is affiliated to the Foreign Ministry, will be concerned with following up Palestinian matters on the Arab, Islamic and international levels, according to a statement issued Saturday by the council of ministers.

The statement said that the department will be authorised to supervise the affairs and deal with problems related to Palestinian

refugees displaced people. It will also supervise the administration of Palestinian refugee camps in various governorates of Jordan, in cooperation with other government departments.

The statement said that the department will be in charge of distributing rations of food supplies to displaced Palestinians, facilitating travel across the bridges on the River Jordan and entry into the Kingdom of West

Bank agricultural products. The department was known under the name of "Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs" before the Kingdom's decision on July 31 to sever its legal and administrative ties with the occupied West Bank.

The department director normally represents Jordan at meetings involving Arab countries, hosting refugees and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees.

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## Mayor outlines plan for Greater Salt region

AMMAN (J.T.) — The mayor of Salt, Abdul Razzak Nsour, said in a statement published Saturday that his municipality intends to enlarge the borders of the city and create a Greater Salt region along the lines of the Greater Amman region. "This expansion is deemed necessary in view of continuing development and the creation of new districts and suburbs," the mayor said in his statement quoted by Al Dustour Arabic daily.

The total area of land that has been included in the municipality's new organisation is now 35,000 dunums, up from 5,000 dunums in 1981. Plans are also underway to organise the outlying areas to the city, Nsour said. He said that the municipality has a JD 800,000 budget for 1988, but it is expected that at least JD 300,000 will be raised in contributions and taxes. Nsour urged the people of Salt to pay their dues to enable the municipality carry out expansion and municipal projects.

If the residents paid only 20 per cent of their total dues, the municipality will not need to borrow money from any source, and would provide better services to all districts, Nsour said.

Referring to old buildings, like the Salt Secondary School, which gave education to many of the country's leaders, Nsour said that such buildings can not be pulled down in the expansion programme and that everything possible will be done to protect them and to set up public gardens in their vicinity to attract visitors.

With reference to the Salt Development Corporation, set up in the past few years to help the municipality carry out its task, Nsour said that the corporation helped by financing a market place for Salt, and studies to set up a sports city, and a crafts zone; and provided funds to purchase land for such projects, and granted the municipality a JD 25,000 loan to buy equipment and machinery for its projects.

In addition, the corporation has provided assistance to youth and sports clubs to promote cultural activities in Salt, the mayor noted.

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The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Art exhibition by Omar Al Basoul, at the Housing Bank Complex.
- ★ "The Individual, Sport and Olympic Games" book exhibit, at the American Centre.
- ★ Book exhibition, at the Professional Association Complex.
- ★ Book exhibition, at Al Walaja Cooperative Society, Jabal Nuzha.
- ★ Folkloric exhibition, at the Al Manarah Social Development Society, Al Manarah.
- ★ An exhibition of paintings by Mohammad Shamseddine, at the Petra Bank Gallery.
- ★ Islamic book exhibition and charity bazaar, at the Islamic Cultural Centre, University of Jordan.
- ★ An exhibition of antiquities of Tell Abu Hamid agricultural settlement in the Jordan Valley, at the Department of Antiquities Registration Centre.
- ★ First Amman International Motor Show, four kilometres from the Seventh Circle.
- ★ Pakistani cultural exhibition, at the Al Hussein Sports City.
- ★ Arab book exhibition, at Yarmouk University, Irbid.

### FILM

- ★ A feature film entitled "Places in the Heart" (video), at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

### LECTURE

- ★ Dr. Mahmoud Al Samra gives a lecture on "The Arabs and Contemporary Problems" (Arabic), at the Orthodox Club — 7:00 p.m.
- ★ Three physicians with Mideast experiences will speak on "Administering Medical Aid Under War Conditions," at the Chamber of Commerce, Shmeisani - 4:00 p.m.

### PLAY

- ★ Arabic Play "Shatila Al Zaytoon," at the Royal Cultural Centre — 7:00 p.m.



## Jordan Times

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Editorial Director:  
RAKAN AL MAJALI

Director General:  
RADI AL WAQFI

Editor-in-Chief:  
RAMI G. KHOURI

Editorial and advertising offices:  
Jordan Press Foundation,  
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 684311, 684366  
Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO  
Facsimile: 661242

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## Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

### Floating at last

THE Central Bank has finally made the decision to float all interest rates on all forms of deposits. The decision was long overdue. It is good, however, that the decision was made at all while the market is still able to respond and show some results that could have been achieved if the decision was made earlier.

There is no doubt that interest rates will tend to go upwards, but to an extent no one can predict for certain at this point in time. The Jordanian dinar has now a mechanism to adjust to various circumstances, and to the mood prevailing in the market from time to time.

Previously people were tempted to convert their savings to dollars and sterling pounds, not only to gain the eventual difference in exchange but also to earn higher interest. Capital flight was a logical response to the rigid regulations unnecessarily imposed on the banking system.

On the other hand the Central Bank was applying two contradicting policies, namely flexible exchange rates and fixed interest rates. These two policies were not compatible, because interest had to compensate the holder of a certain currency for the expected loss on exchange as long as he/she had a choice of currencies to maintain.

The dinar was deprived the means to defend itself against the inevitable decline of the exchange rate. After the floating, however, interest rate can rise to the level necessary to convince a reasonable depositor to keep the dinar as long as he/she can earn competitive interest rate without opting for a foreign currency. Expatriates will also find it feasible to put their savings in a dinar deposit.

Under the floating system, the Central Bank will no more impose a ceiling or a floor for interest payable or receivable on any form of deposit or from any credit facility. Commercial banks and financial corporations will be able to set their own prices according to the market indicators and their needs.

This should not mean that hard bargaining may take place

between the bank and each customer to agree on the rate. Banks operating under a floating system are required to publish their rates on weekly basis and those rates should be applicable to all customers without discrimination.

Interest rates are expected to vary, not only from one bank to another, but also from one deposit to another, in accordance with the amount and the duration.

The scale of interest rates of any bank should naturally accelerate with the amount up to JD 100,000 and with the duration from demand to two years. Deposits for more than JD 100,000 or for a term longer than two years can be left for negotiation.

Published scales of interest rates are a must if exploitation is to be avoided, and if the integrity of banks management and fair competition are to be preserved. Banks are called upon to advertise their rates immediately in the press, and display them prominently at all their branches to assure customers that they are getting a fair deal.

Although banks are free to set their own prices yet, in practice, rates will not widely vary from one bank to another. One or few leaders will make the rates and other banks will have to take them. Most likely the Arab Bank, the Housing Bank and Petra Bank will have a leading role in pricing which will be more or less dictated by the markets.

It is quite strange that a major decision such as floating of interest rates did not yet create the expected waves in the banking circles. Banks, financial corporations, the press and the business sectors are almost calm, or doing nothing to cope with the new environment. Perhaps they will make up and start doing their home work quickly. The management of a bank that fails to understand and respond properly to the new situation will cause untold damage to the bank's profitability. The difference between one bank and another is no more confined to the size of the balance sheet and the number of branches, it is efficiency and dynamism that will make the difference.

## OPEN FORUM

### Quest for excellence

WATCHING the Olympic Games can be quite a treat; it should be an inspiring experience too.

For the last two weeks or so, and since the 24th Olympic extravaganza started in Seoul, millions of people around the world have been living through a common and yet unique experience, namely the exposure to a rare outstanding footage depicting physical strength, grace, and meticulous precision; all being vibrant examples of the human will.

Still, in the context of human nature, there would be moments of frustration, deception, mistake, and jealousy. Achievement is the magic word which, at least momentarily, obliterates all other trivial things.

It is an unequalled setting where those magnificent pictures, albeit the constant reminder of each competitor's own flag and affiliation, alienate traditional animosities and notions of violence. Although what we see is a series of competitions, highly charged with nationalistic emotions, each game on its own, is a friendly engagement that usually ends with a hand-shake, a smile, and a tear or two.

Every night, while I watch those young determined athletes, most of whom do not speak the language of their rivals, I become more convinced that we, the human species, can better communicate. My reaction to what I see is an involuntary combination of innocent envy and awesome admiration. Then I go on to wonder how long and how much would it take a young person to excel in one of these games, and whether it is really impossible for my Jordanian compatriots to have a bigger share in such events.

The shortest cut, I believe, between a dream and a reality is the human will. I am impressed with this event, that I want to take the liberty, and on behalf of millions of spectators, to extend to all those involved in the Olympics, this time and every time, a warm hand-shake, a smile, and a promise not to cry except in joy.

Salim Ayoub

## A prize well earned

CONGRATULATIONS to the United Nations peacekeeping forces for receiving the Nobel Peace Prize for 1988. It is a well earned prize, and belated recognition of the outstanding services that the United Nations peace forces have rendered for peace and security since 1945.

The first such peacekeeping effort by multi-national forces was right in our midst in the Middle East. It was in the aftermath of the Israeli-Arab war of 1948 that the world witnessed the first ever deployment of United Nations forces to supervise the armistice agreements concluded in 1949 between Arab states and Israel.

It is ironic that the most recent deployment of United Nations peacekeeping forces was also in the Middle East region, to supervise the ceasefire between Iran and Iraq. Indeed, the services of United Nations forces between warring states has taken them to many other regions and continents. If their work is not finished, it is not the fault of the international organisation itself or its peacekeeping function.

The fathers of the United Nations Charter had envisioned a much broader resort to multi-national forces to preserve peace and stability world-wide. Unfortunately, the permanent members of the Security Council fumbled over this clear objective and prevented the creation of such a force to function as a war-preventive force at the disposal of the Security Council. What was rescued from the original idea (to make available to the United Nations a standing multi-national military arm) was the improvisation of U.N. peacekeeping forces. Even this modest force was plagued by superpower rivalry and defaults on the payments of contributions from U.N. member states.

But in spite of all constraints, the low-key performances of the U.N. peacekeeping forces have developed into a dimension of the U.N. system that has become indispensable. Scores have died in the line of duty.

And now comes the time to give them what they honourably deserve: Recognition from the Nobel Peace Institute, which reflected the conscience of mankind and bestowed on the men and women of the U.N. forces a prize in recognition of their endless and silent contributions to peace and security.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

ARABIC daily newspapers commented Saturday on the killing of civilians by Zionist settlers in the occupied West Bank town of Hebron and the protection given to the murderers by the Israeli troops. "The settlers and the soldiers are now in the same boat, and the resistance should be directed against either of them on equal footing," Al Ra'i newspaper said. The paper described the killing of two youths in Hebron as a murder in cold blood, committed in violation of all norms, laws and principles; and called on the international community to put an end to such atrocities. The paper was critical of the U.S. stand towards Israel's practices and said that Washington's criticism of Israel's use of plastic bullets was worth nothing. "Indeed, it has been the U.S. protecting umbrella that has been encouraging the Israelis to commit such atrocities and maintain a campaign of terror against the Palestinians," said the paper. "No one can be convinced that Washington has any credibility; as on the one hand, it denounces terrorism and continues to provide a protecting umbrella for Israel's inhuman practices on the other," the paper added.

For its part, Al Dustour said that the Hebron crime committed by Moshe Livinger, leader of the Gush Emunim extremist group of Zionist settlers, was part of a long series of atrocities committed by the Israelis in cold blood against the Arab population of Palestine. The settlers committed this new crime in the face of continued world-wide condemnation of Israel's practices including protests from the United States and Britain; and carried out by criminals in broad daylight and before the whole world, the paper noted. The new murders in Hebron, it said, marked a new phase of a terrorist campaign against the Palestinians of which Rabin and his aides are no more ashamed. What is required, the paper concluded is real pressure to be exerted on Israel by those very countries which have been criticising its actions and inhuman practices.

Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily commented on Israel's Foreign Minister Shimon Peres's attempts to improve Israel's image abroad at a time when war minister Rabin orders his soldiers to kill and injure as many Palestinians as possible. Israel is now presented in the minds of people around the world as a war machine bent on murdering innocent civilians struggling for their freedom, the paper said. Peres's call for what he named as "historic peace" with the Arabs is meant as a ploy to deceive the world when Israeli troops continue their inhuman practices against the Arab population of Palestine, the paper added. "The world can hear the sound of bullets and the cries of women and children in Palestine louder than all of Peres's statements and false calls," the paper concluded.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

### Lesson from Taba

COMMENTING on news dispatched after the verdict over the Taba enclave, which quoted Israeli officials as saying that "Israel's acceptance in the first place of the concept of arbitration was a grave blunder because it took the whole question out of Israel's hands," Al Ra'i columnist Tareq Masarweh drew parallels between the arbitration and calls for an international peace conference over the Middle East. The writer quotes other officials as threatening to demolish the installations and hotels in Taba if they had to withdraw and others, as totally rejecting the verdict and pledging that they will never abandon Taba. "If this kind of response ensued after the panel's verdict over a 700-metre stretch of land which belongs to Egypt, what would be Israel's response or the Israeli negotiators' attitude on the future of the occupied West Bank, the Gaza Strip, the Golan Heights and southern Lebanon?" asks the writer. Masarweh cautions against harbouring false hopes about prospects of Israeli withdrawal and warns that Israel can only concede the loss of Jericho in battle once the Arabs decide to carry on the fight towards Nablus, and would not concede the fall of Nablus unless the Arabs were bent on pursuing the march to Acre.

## Peacekeeping operations date back to U.N. beginning

By Anthony Goodman

UNITED NATIONS — United Nations peacekeeping operations, honoured Thursday with a Nobel Peace Prize, date back to the earliest days of the world organisation.

The first operation to be launched, and still going strong, was the U.N. Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO), established in 1948 to monitor ceasefires and armistice agreements between Israel and its Arab neighbours. It now comprises some 300 officers.

The newest operation is the U.N. Iran-Iraq military observer group, set up only a month ago to monitor the Aug. 20 ceasefire in the Gulf war. It consists of about 350 military observers and several hundred military and civilian support staff.

U.N. peace-keeping takes two forms — observer missions and peace-keeping forces.

Observers are blue-beretted officers of various nationalities whose task is to check on alleged violations of a truce or ceasefire. Peace-keeping forces consist of blue-helmeted regular army units, usually infantry battalions or companies, furnished by various U.N. members. They are supported as necessary by transport, signals, engineering, medical and other military services.

Major operations still in existence, in addition to UNTSO and UNIMOG are:

— UNFICYP, the U.N. peace-keeping force in Cyprus, set up in March 1964 to try to prevent tensions between the island's Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities from flaring into open conflict. It consists of just over 2,000 men.

— UNDOF, the U.N. disengagement observer force, about 1,300 strong, that has been stationed since May 1974 on the Golan Heights to serve as a buffer between the Syrian and Israeli armies after the 1973 Middle East war.

— UNIFIL, the U.N. interim force in Lebanon, formed in 1978 to confirm the withdrawal of Israeli forces after an invasion earlier that year and to help restore the authority of the Lebanese government in southern Lebanon. Despite the "interim" in its name, the force of nearly 6,000 men shows little sign of being disbanded in the foreseeable future.

The first U.N. peace-keeping force was UNEF I, U.N. Emergency Force I, stationed near the Egypt-Israel border after the 1956 Suez crisis but withdrawn on the eve of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

It had a maximum strength of more than 6,000 men but was later considerably reduced in size.

A successor force, called UNEF II, was formed after the 1973 Arab-Israeli war but its mandate was allowed to lapse soon after the March 1979 peace treaty between Israel and Egypt. Its peak strength was nearly 7,000 men, down to just over 4,000 when withdrawn.

The biggest U.N. peace-keeping effort of all was the U.N. operation in the Congo, known as ONUC from its French title, Operation des Nations Unies au Congo. Mounted in June 1960 to ensure the withdrawal of Belgian forces from what is now Zaire, it was later given the task of maintaining the territorial and political integrity of the newly-independent country and to prevent civil war.

At its peak in 1961 it had a strength of nearly 20,000 but was down to about 5,800 a few months before being disbanded in mid-1964.

Other, smaller, peace-keeping operations have included: — UNMOGIP, the U.N. military observer group in India and

Pakistan, set up in 1949 to supervise the ceasefire between India and Pakistan in the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

It never numbered more than about 100 observers and is now down to less than half that strength.

— UNIPOM, the U.N. India-Pakistan observer mission, was set up in September 1965 to supervise a ceasefire along the two countries' border between Kashmir and the Arabian Sea. By the time it was disbanded in March 1966 it had fewer than 80 observers.

An earlier short-lived operation was UNOGIL, the U.N. observation group in Lebanon, fielded from June to December 1958 during a time of tension in that country. Its mandate was to ensure against infiltration of personnel or arms across the Lebanese borders.

From July 1963 to September 1964 UNYOM, the U.N. Yemen observation mission, oversaw the implementation of a disengagement agreement between Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

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## Iran, Iraq cautiously optimistic

(Continued from page 1)

On his way to meet the secretary-general, Aziz was asked if he was hopeful of a breakthrough in the deadlock. He replied that he was, but offered no specific reason for his optimism.

After the meeting, Aziz was asked if there were any breakthroughs in the offering, especially on the Shatt Al Arab.

Aziz said: "I don't want to make any hasty conclusions because we have not yet met the Iranians, and we will see if they have anything new."

Yelayat, after his meeting with Perez de Cuellar, told reporters:

"We do hope that during these talks that are taking place in New York, we could reach a tangible result, and we hope that we could reach a concrete conclusion for the implementation of the other provisions of Resolution 598."

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## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### 'Israel aiding Sudan rebels'

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — Reports published Friday by an Islamic political party said that weapons Israel flew into southern Sudan helped rebels win control over two strategic towns this month. The newspaper Al Raya, the paper of the National Islamic Front, quoted an unidentified "informed security source" that "big quantities of arms and ammunition recently were transported from Israel to the rebels in south Sudan." The report came two days after the Sudanese army accused "regional and international quarters" of aiding the rebels. Al Raya's source said the supplies, flown in via neighbouring Kenya and Ethiopia, enabled the southern rebels to capture Katre and Kiala, which the army was admitted losing.

### U.S. denies negotiating hostage release

CHICAGO (AP) — President Ronald Reagan denied Friday that the U.S. government is negotiating a hostage release with Iran, but said his administration is "doing everything we can" to win their release. Responding to a published report in a Middle East newspaper, which said a deal is in the works possibly as soon as Oct. 7, Reagan told reporters, "we have no direct negotiations, or have we had, with Iran, at any time, in this."

### U.S. House rejects Senate sanctions bill

WASHINGTON (R) — The House of Representatives Friday rejected Senate efforts to impose trade sanctions on Iraq and to delay a U.S.-Chinese satellite launching pact until Peking pledges not to sell missiles to five Middle East nations. The provisions had been adopted earlier as amendments to a bill providing \$14.3 billion for foreign aid and other programmes. The bill went back to the Senate. The Reagan administration had opposed the provisions and a third limiting diplomatic immunity for foreign diplomats and threatened a presidential veto of the bill. The Senate called for the Iraq sanctions because of alleged use of poison gas against the Kurds, an allegation that Iraq strongly denied.

### Kabul accuses Pakistan of aiding rebels

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Afghanistan Friday echoed Soviet criticism of alleged sheltering, training and arming of Islamic rebels who allegedly still launch raids from Pakistan. Provision of "modern weapons, including Stingers, long-range artillery and mortars and ground-to-ground rockets to the extremist opposition groups and their transfer to Afghanistan is continuing," said Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil. The United States "is still continuing the dispatch of weapons and equipment to armed extremist groups," he said, accusing Pakistani militias of joining attacks in Spin Boldak, and the provinces of Kandahar and the Kunars. Pakistan's "centres of training, arming and equipping of armed extremist groups on its territory have not been dismantled," Wakil said in his speech to the 43rd General Assembly.

### Dutch foreign minister to visit Iran

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Netherlands Foreign Minister Hans van den Broek has accepted in principle an invitation to visit Iran, a spokesman for the Dutch mission to the United Nations said Friday. Iran's foreign minister, Ali Akbar Velayati, extended the invitation Thursday when the two foreign ministers met privately, said spokesman Peer Janus. No date has been set for the visit, he said.

### Uganda delays lifting aid to Sudan

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — Uganda Airlines has delayed plans to ferry U.N. emergency food aid to drought- and war-ravaged southern Sudan after rebels shot at a Boeing 707 carrying passengers and relief goods, an airline source said Friday. Elsewhere, Sudanese rebels claimed Sudanese government troops in southern Bahr El Ghazal province had confiscated emergency aid donated by the International Committee of the Red Cross and were selling it at "exorbitant" prices. The U.N. World Food Programme was preparing to airlift the food from Uganda's airport at Entebbe to Juba in Sudan's southern Equatoria province because rebel attacks in southern Sudan have made delivering emergency supplies by truck too dangerous.

## Libyan-Tunisian relationship brings tourists, trade, contacts

By Jonathan Wright  
Reuters

TUNIS — An influx of Libyans into Tunisia has brought new sounds, sights and economic benefits to this north African country.

A Libyan-Tunisian rapprochement means, for example, that the voices of both Tunisians and Libyans can be heard on local phone-in programmes here, and that the streets of Tunis are full of cars bearing Libyan revolutionary green numberplates.

Since the two neighbours restored relations last December, Libyans have been swarming across the border in hundreds of thousands, mostly for pleasure.

And tens of thousands of Tunisians have gone to Libya in search of work or business opportunities.

Hotels are full on the island of Jerba, close to the Libyan border. Tunisian car repair shops in the south are doing a roaring trade with Libyans who may have waited months to get their vehicles fixed at home, travellers say.

Libyan truckers have been cleaning out the fruit and vegetable markets in the south and

going straight to the farmers, driving up prices as far north as the capital, the travellers add.

In Tunis itself, up to one car in 10 in any line of traffic may bear the distinct green Libyan plates. Most are from the western regions of Libya but some are from Benghazi, a 1,600-kilometre drive away.

The Tunisian government estimates that one million Libyans will visit this year, compared with 7,000 in 1987. The amount they are spending has already helped bring Tunisia's foreign reserves up to record levels, according to official figures.

### Speaking same language

Politically, relations could hardly be more friendly given the profound contrast between a Tunisian government committed to Western-style multi-party democracy and a Libyan leadership which maintains that such systems are a sham.

"Now we speak the same language, draw the same analysts and we have the same preoccupations... there's enormous potential for historic action," said Major Abdul Salam Jalloud, Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi

second-in-command, during a visit to Tunis last week.

Tunisian officials avoid rhetorical flourishes of this type but none have shown any hesitation in accepting the embrace of a country which Tunisia's Western allies continue to distrust and with which former Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba broke relations in 1985 after a long dispute over migrant workers.

Libya had demanded that Tunisian workers in Libya accept "Arab" or Libyan nationality and expelled tens of thousands who refused. Many lost all the money they had saved and all the valuable goods they had bought during their stay in Libya.

Notices have appeared in the Tunisian newspapers over the past month inviting the expelled workers to present their receipts at border posts for compensation.

Dependants of Tunisians who worked in Libya have also received pensions and other benefits previously denied them.

President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali, who removed the aged Bourguiba from power last November,

portrays the rapprochement with Libya as part of a Tunisian initiative to unite all the Arab countries of Northwest Africa.

"It was we who had called for a Maghreb without frontiers. For us, that's a long-term objective, a project which really arouses popular approval," he said in a French newspaper interview earlier this month.

Although Ibn Ali has denied there is a commercial motive behind the friendship with Libya, diplomats from Western and some Arab countries say they are worried that the financial benefits might lock Tunisia into a Libyan stranglehold.

Apart from the revenues from trade and tourism, Tunisia stands to receive substantial sums from an oil-sharing deal with Libya earlier this month.

Under the deal, 10 per cent of the income from Libya's Bouri offshore field will finance joint Libyan-Tunisian projects and the two countries will develop in partnership a nearby area on the previously disputed continental shelf.

## 'Jordan's breakaway from the West Bank fostered PLO's representative status'

## Egypt condemns repressive Israeli acts against Palestinian uprising

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Egypt condemned Friday Israel's "escalating acts of repression" against the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories and said they were futile.

"In recent years, the Palestine question has witnessed attempts aimed at imposing a fait accompli and at entrenching Israeli occupation," Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid said in a speech to the General Assembly.

"Nevertheless, the Palestinian uprising (intifada) defied all forms of suppression and coercion. The heroic Palestinian people, out of their firm belief in their just cause, have succeeded in imposing recognition of their existence and in gaining world-wide support for their national rights," Abdul Meguid said the Palestinian people had made it impossible to return to pre-uprising conditions.

"So, the escalating acts of repression perpetrated by the Israeli occupation forces are futile," he said.

They contravened international law, the Geneva conventions and human rights, and were strongly condemned by Egypt as they had been by the entire international community.

He said last July's decision by Jordan to sever legal and administrative links with the West Bank was aimed at fostering the representative status of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in implementing decisions of the Arab summit.

"In its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the PLO has consequently assumed the prime responsibility of the occupied territories," Abdul Meguid said.

International support for a Middle East peace conference under United Nations auspices was one of the basic tenets on which Arab and international political action to resolve the Palestinian problem was based, he said.

Without referring to Israel by name, he said: "Now-confrontation of facts, non-admission of the inherent nature of the conflict, persistent disregard of the Palestinian people and their legitimate representatives and disregard of the national rights of those people, foremost among which is their right to self-determination — all will keep this conflict unresolved and will lead to far-reaching consequences in the region."

He welcomed statements by Palestinian officials emphasising the PLO's willingness to negotiate a peaceful and lasting solution to the Palestinian problem and for a mutual and simultaneous recognition of Israel.

"I also wish to commend the peace-loving forces in Israel on their striving for a lasting and just settlement," he added.

Secretary of State George Shultz said there was evidence Iran wanted to move toward a more normal position around the world.

However, Shultz said, any U.S. settlement with Iran required an end to the Iran-Iraq war, an end to terrorism and the release of Americans held hostage in Lebanon by pro-Iranian groups.

"There is no change in the situation as far as the United States and Iran is concerned," he said.

## Britain, Iran resume diplomatic ties

By Barry Schweid  
The Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Britain announced Friday a resumption of full diplomatic ties with Iran, accelerating an improvement in Western relations with the fundamentalist government in Tehran.

"Both sides have decided to resume full diplomatic relations on the basis of reciprocity and mutual respect," British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe said after meeting with his Iranian counterpart, Ali Akbar Velayati.

Velayati, referring to negotiations under way in Geneva between British and Iranian representatives, said some details remained to be worked out.

In London, Iranian Charge D'Affaires Mohammad Basti, the only accredited diplomat from his country in Britain, said, "full diplomatic relations are to be restored and we hope it will be at ambassadorial level."

Britain pulled its diplomats out of Tehran last year after one of its envoys was beaten and kidnapped in apparent reprisal for the arrest in Manchester of an Iranian consul on shoplifting charges.

The diplomat, Edward Chaplin, was released 24 hours after his abduction in Tehran on May 28, 1987. Britain accused Iran of unacceptable behaviour and downgraded relations to caretaker status on June 18, 1987.

While the two countries did not break diplomatic relations, their ties were severely strained and only the Iranian charge d'affaires was allowed to remain in London.

Basti indicated relations would

be restored quickly. He said "we are making some final consultations with our side in Tehran and on your side, and that's all."

Howe, in a brief session with reporters in a U.N. corridor, said there was "no connection between the decision and any other matters."

He apparently referred to Terry Waite, an envoy of the Anglican Church who vanished while on a mission to Lebanon, and two other British hostages.

Secretary of State George Shultz said there was evidence Iran wanted to move toward a more normal position around the world.

However, Shultz said, any U.S. settlement with Iran required an end to the Iran-Iraq war, an end to terrorism and the release of Americans held hostage in Lebanon by pro-Iranian groups.

"There is no change in the situation as far as the United States and Iran is concerned," he said.

## UNIFIL: A mission impossible?

MAJDAL ZOUN, Lebanon (AP) — Hours after the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to U.N. peacekeepers, six rounds of machine-gun fire blasted into the hill behind a U.N. observation post here.

"It's just part of our job," said Lt. Arjun Sapkota, 29, of Nepal, who said being shot at is not an unusual experience in south Lebanon. The 5,800 soldiers stationed near this south Lebanese village with the United Nations' Interim Force in Lebanon undoubtedly have one of the most difficult missions of the seven U.N. forces sharing the prize.

They were deployed in 1978 to supervise the withdrawal of an Israeli invading force. But the Israelis haven't fully withdrawn, and UNIFIL is sandwiched between them and a myriad of militias that have sprouted in Lebanon.

"It has seemed a mission impossible at times," said Lt. Col. Gerry McMahon, of Ireland, UNIFIL's senior operations officer and a veteran of U.N. peace missions in Zaire, Cyprus, Syria and Lebanon.

Still, he said, UNIFIL has made a difference in a country

factionalised by 13 years of civil war.

"If UNIFIL didn't exist here, this place would be a battlefield," McMahon said. "We have been a stabilising influence in southern Lebanon."

UNIFIL troops, headquartered in the southern town of Naqurah, can be distinguished by their pale blue helmets and berets and the blue and white banner that flies above their observation posts and roadside checkpoints. Nepal, Fiji, Ireland, Ghana, Finland, Norway, Sweden, France and Italy contribute to the force.

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

### Gorbachev elected president

(Continued from page 1)

Moscow Communist Party leader Lev N. Zaikov said Gorbachev had been endorsed by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

He was elected unanimously by the Supreme Soviet.

Gromyko, a Communist Party and government stalwart from the time to Josef Stalin through the first several years of Gorbachev's reforms, retired from the ruling party politburo Friday, and his resignation from the presidency had been expected.

His five-minute farewell address was greeted with thunderous applause.

"The star of socialism since October 1917 has constantly shined and given light," he said.

"Thank you comrade deputies for the trust you've granted me in the past and now. I have very deep respect for it," he said. He stressed the need for unity in the party leadership.

Gromyko then returned to his seat on the dais facing the deputies of the nation's parliament. He sat expressionless and abstained from the vote that removed him from office.

Acting on Gorbachev's recommendation, the Supreme Soviet named Anatoly Lukyanov vice-president. He replaced Pyotr Demichev, who was stripped of his candidate membership on the politburo in Friday's central committee meeting.

Lukyanov was named a candidate member of the politburo at that meeting.

The Supreme Soviet also named Vladimir A. Kryuchkov to be the new head of the KGB secret police. He replaced Viktor M. Chebrikov, who was named a secretary of the party Central Committee in charge of legal and judiciary affairs.

Gorbachev Friday also obtained the resignations of a pair of other holdovers from the era of President Leonid I. Brezhnev — full politburo member Mikhail S. Solomentsev and

candidate member Vladimir I. Dolgikh.

Yegor K. Ligachev, considered the Kremlin number two and a conservative rival to Gorbachev, apparently was demoted Friday. He was moved to the Central Committee's agriculture portfolio although he retained his politburo status.

Another change approved by the parliamentary body on a proposal by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov was the appointment of 59-year-old Alexandra Biryukova as a deputy prime minister in charge of light industry and consumer affairs.

Biryukova, promoted Friday to become a candidate member of the politburo, is the first woman to reach the higher echelons of the Kremlin power structure for some 30 years.

Another old-time figure, 76-year-old Deputy Prime Minister Alexei Antonov, was retired and replaced as permanent Soviet representative to Comecon, the Communist bloc economic grouping, by Nikolai Talyzin.

Talyzin, 59, is a candidate member of the politburo. But while appointing him to the new post, the Supreme Soviet demoted him from first deputy prime minister to deputy prime minister.

In his 10-minute acceptance speech Saturday, the beaming Gorbachev said his perestroika reform programme was "an historic choice... to put the country on a modern level, to achieve a substantial improvement in the lives of the people."

His elevation to the presidency, although in its present form a largely ceremonial post, confirms his sure grip on power and strengthens further his capacity to pursue the radical reshaping of the Soviet system that he has championed.

Next spring the presidency is to be transformed into a more powerful executive post which, combined with his leadership of the party as general secretary, will put him in an almost impregnable position, analysts said.

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## Survey shows credit worthiness of world debtors at lowest point

NEW YORK (AP) — International bankers' confidence in the creditworthiness of the world's debtor nations has sunk to a 10-year low, according to a survey by an American financial magazine.

Every six months, Institutional Investor magazine asks about 100 international commercial banks to rank the creditworthiness of 112 nations on a scale of zero to 100.

No. 1 in the magazine's latest September survey is Japan, with a rating of 94.8, followed by Switzerland (93.9), West Germany (93.1) and the United States (89.7). At the bottom of the heap in 111th and 112th places are Nicaragua, with a 5.2 rating and North Korea, 4.5.

The average rating of all 112 nations, Institutional Investor says in its September issue, hit "an all-time low of 38.7" in its September survey.

The new global low is the

culmination of a long-term downward trend in the 10 years that this magazine has been compiling "country credit ratings," it adds.

"The decline of two-tenths of a point since March 1988... seems to reflect an instinctive pessimism, even a worldweariness, rather than any specific developments," it notes.

Average country credit ratings have been sinking at a particularly fast rate since August 1982, when Mexico's announcement that it could not meet its foreign debt payments signalled the beginning of a Third World debt crisis that still continues to deepen six years later.

Third World debtor nations now owe an estimated \$1.2 tril-

lion to foreign banks, governments, international credit institutions and other global creditors. The total debt continues to grow as the debtor nations fall further behind on their payments of principal and interest.

Institutional Investor notes that in its September survey that except for "the lingering effects of lower oil prices on such oil exporters as Algeria, Nigeria and Trinidad, the upticks and downturns largely reflect unique domestic issues — a country's handling of debt or trade or ethnic disputes."

"Various forms of unsatisfactory fiscal management diminished the ratings of the United States as well as Australia, New Zealand, the Nordic countries and Argentina. The handling of economic reform hurt Peru and Hungary. And good economic

statistics boosted South Korea and Mauritius.

"On a region-by-region basis, North America showed the biggest move, falling a full point, and Eastern Europe dropped 0.8 points.

"While the decliners included some heavyweight countries — the United States, China, Nigeria and Brazil — the rises occurred in such places as Nepal, the Seychelles and Swaziland. And these gainers show few signs of enduring strength. Libya, for example, became the biggest gainer largely by staying out of mischief."

The monthly magazine quotes one banker as saying that global "creditworthiness is likely to continue its downward drift until bankers are convinced that there is an end to fiscal irresponsibility in the industrial countries and an answer to ruinous debt obligations to the developing world."

Following are the credit ratings and the ranks in September 1988 and in March 1988:

| Rank | Country        | Credit rating | Rank | Country     | Credit rating |
|------|----------------|---------------|------|-------------|---------------|
| 1    | Japan          | 94.8          | 101  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 2    | Switzerland    | 93.9          | 102  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 3    | West Germany   | 93.1          | 103  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 4    | United States  | 89.7          | 104  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 5    | United Kingdom | 86.9          | 105  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 6    | Netherlands    | 86.7          | 106  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 7    | Canada         | 85.4          | 107  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 8    | France         | 84.7          | 108  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 9    | Austria        | 82.9          | 109  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 10   | Sweden         | 79.7          | 110  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 11   | Norway         | 79.2          | 111  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 12   | Finland        | 78.3          | 112  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 13   | Italy          | 77.5          | 113  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 14   | Belgium        | 77.3          | 114  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 15   | Taiwan         | 76.8          | 115  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 16   | Singapore      | 74.8          | 116  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 17   | Spain          | 73.4          | 117  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 18   | Denmark        | 71.7          | 118  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 19   | Australia      | 68.2          | 119  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 20   | Hong Kong      | 68.0          | 120  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 21   | Soviet Union   | 64.7          | 121  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 22   | New Zealand    | 63.9          | 122  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 23   | South Korea    | 63.7          | 123  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 24   | China          | 63.3          | 124  | North Korea | 4.5           |
| 25   | Ireland        | 62.3          | 125  | North Korea | 4.5           |

## ACC to lend farmers JD 0.9m

AMMAN (J.T.) — Agriculture Minister Marwan Hmoud Thursday chaired a meeting of the Agricultural Credit Corporation's (ACC's) board of directors and agreed to grant JD 886,000 in loans to Jordanian farmers to finance 350 agricultural projects.

ACC Director General Sami Al Sunnaa said that the corporation has granted loans amounting to JD 2.7 million up to Aug. 31, 1988 as opposed to JD 3 million during the reporting period in 1987.

Sunnaa pointed out that reform

of rain-fed land and planting of fruit trees accounted for 24.2 per cent of the gross loans.

He also said that the board of directors has decided, after discussing farmers' loans, to reschedule the debts for those who are unable to settle their credits to the ACC.

Sunnaa further said that the board has requested that a working paper on the loan granting policy and the amendments there to be prepared.

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## NIJOU

THE FIGHTER  
Performances 3.30, 6.15, 8.30, 10.30

## Jordan enforces rules on moneychangers

By Rana Sabbagh Reuters

AMMAN — Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Hussein Kasim said new foreign exchange rules restricting moneychangers' operations took effect Saturday.

"As of today moneychangers have to respect the central bank measures," Kasim told Reuters. "We will not reverse the rules. We will pursue efforts to ensure that moneychangers have abided by the regulations and check if they have closed all their accounts in banks outside Jordan," he said.

The 75 or so exchange com-

panies had protested against the restrictions announced by the central bank in June, and had been given more than three months to comply.

Exchange merchants surveyed by Reuters said they had obeyed the new rules, but predicted the measures would further weaken the dinar, create a black market and reduce remittances from nearly 350,000 Jordanians working abroad.

"We have respected the rules by closing our accounts outside Jordan," said exchange dealer Ghazi Al Saudi, displaying documents to that effect from several European banks.

Moneychanger Makram Al Alami said: "We have adhered to

the rules, but we hope and expect the central bank will review them."

The rules, aimed at curbing the outflow of foreign currency and bolstering the dinar, bar moneychangers from accepting deposits, extending loans, making transfers, issuing cheques abroad, opening accounts overseas and speculating in international equity, metals or commodity markets.

They may now have foreign currency accounts only at local banks. Unlike the banks, they need not abide by exchange rates posted daily by the central bank. Kasim reiterated that he had

told central banks in Arab countries and around the world that accounts held or opened by Jordanian moneychangers abroad were illegal.

Jordanian embassies had warned expatriates in the Gulf and elsewhere not to remit money home through moneychangers.

The dinar has lost nearly 12 per cent of its value against the dollar in the past five months and has fallen faster against other major currencies, according to central bank rates.

Rates offered by moneychangers value the dinar around nine per cent lower than the official prices.

## CAEU proposes joint research

AMMAN (Petra) — The 16th annual meeting of companies affiliated to the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) opened in Amman Saturday to discuss coordination among these companies in research projects they are undertaking at present and other contributions to the enhancement of the Arab countries' economies.

Before the representatives of the four companies is a report prepared by the CAEU's secretariat on means of promoting the work of these companies.

The opening session was addressed by the council's Secretary General Hassan Ibrahim in which he pledged that the CAEU and its companies will continue to help bring about economic integration within the Arab World. Referring to the current economic recession, Ibrahim said that this problem can best be overcome through joint Arab projects.

Taking part in the two-day meeting are directors of the Arab Mining Company, the Arab Company for Livestock Development, the Arab Company for Industrial Investment and the Arab Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliances.

A study by CAEU on adverse



CAEU Secretary-General Hassan Ibrahim addressing delegates from Jordanian companies affiliated to the organisation Saturday, at the opening of the 16th annual meeting in Amman (Petra photo).

effects on the economy of poorer Arab nations as a result of implementing the Arab Common Market regulations will be tackled at a meeting opening here Sunday at the CAEU's headquarters.

The five-day meeting by the council's customs committee will review remarks submitted by a number of Arab states on the application of a unified Arab customs law in the course of implementing the Arab Common

Market. A CAEU statement here said that the committee will also address a proposed plan for developing trade among Arab countries.

## AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Following is a new form for the daily exchange rates for Arab and foreign currencies, with the applicable Central Bank rate and the market rate given for each currency.

|                         | Saturday rates              |       | Market rates |        |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|--------------|--------|
|                         | Central Bank official rates |       | Buy          | Sell   |
| U.S. dollar             | 376.1                       | 380.1 | 411.5        | 415.7  |
| Pound Sterling          | 639.7                       | 643.1 | 691.2        | 701.2  |
| Deutschemark            | 211.3                       | 215.3 | 218.2        | 222.5  |
| Swiss franc             | 237.7                       | 241.1 | 251.6        | 260.6  |
| French franc            | 59.1                        | 59.7  | 63.6         | 64.8   |
| Japanese yen (for 100)  | 281.5                       | 284.1 | —            | —      |
| Dutch guilder           | 178.5                       | 181.3 | —            | —      |
| Swedish crown           | 58.7                        | 59.3  | 59.0         | 62.0   |
| Italian lira (for 100)  | 27.0                        | 27.3  | —            | —      |
| Belgian franc (for 100) | 96.1                        | 97.1  | —            | —      |
| Saudi riyal             | —                           | —     | 109.7        | 110.8  |
| Lebanese lira           | —                           | —     | —            | —      |
| Syrian lira             | —                           | —     | 9.6          | 9.8    |
| Iraqi dinar             | —                           | —     | 202.5        | 302.5  |
| Kuwaiti dinar           | —                           | —     | 1420.0       | 1422.5 |

## AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

| Activity on the Amman Financial Market for Oct. 1, 1988. |          |        |           |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------|--------|-----------|
|                                                          | Number   | Volume | Contracts |
| Regular market:                                          | 87663 JD | 81068  | 138       |
| Top three companies:                                     |          |        |           |
| Jordan Rockwool Industries                               | 35615 JD | 28340  | 47        |
| Arab Aluminium Manufacturing                             | 4000 JD  | 6875   | 5         |
| Jordan Dairy                                             | 5472 JD  | 5393   | 5         |
| Parallel market:                                         |          |        |           |
| Development bonds:                                       | 300 JD   | 3090   | —         |
| Treasury bills & bonds:                                  | —        | —      | —         |

## JORDAN BUSINESS DIRECTORY

|                                       |        |                                           |        |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------------|--------|
| Ministry of Industry and Trade        | 663191 | Jordan Commercial Centres Corporation     | 603507 |
| Ministry of Supply                    | 646121 | Free Zones Corporation                    | 642001 |
| Ministry of Finance                   | 636321 | Amman Financial Market                    | 660170 |
| Ministry of Planning                  | 642206 | Amman Chamber of Commerce                 | 666151 |
| Ministry of Labour                    | 647591 | Amman Chamber of Industry                 | 644747 |
| Ministry of Communications            | 630301 | Association of Banks in Jordan            | 662258 |
| Ministry of Agriculture               | 640151 | Jordan Association of Insurance Companies | 647370 |
| Income Tax Department                 | 630301 | General Statistics Department             | 660171 |
| Central Bank of Jordan                | 630301 | Jordanian Businessmen Association         | 666663 |
| Amman Customs Department              | 722181 |                                           |        |
| Social Security Corporation           | 643001 |                                           |        |
| Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation | 721194 |                                           |        |

## CONCORD

Nabila Obeid in  
Assassination of a teacher (Arabic)  
Performances 3.30, 6.15, 8.30, 10.30

## RAINBOW

CRITICAL CONDITION  
Performances 3.30, 6.15, 8.30, 10.30

## NIJOU

THE FIGHTER  
Performances 3.30, 6.15, 8.30, 10.30

## PLAZA

Performances 3.30, 6.15, 8.30, 10.30







## 180 killed in Pakistan bloodbath

KARACHI (Agencies) — Ethnic riots erupted in Pakistan's biggest city Karachi Saturday in reaction to a massacre in nearby Hyderabad, raising the total death toll to at least 180.

Doctors said by telephone from Hyderabad that 150 people were killed, mainly from the Mohajir immigrant community, when unidentified gunmen sprayed bullets at Friday evening crowds.

In Karachi hundreds of Mohajir militants reacted violently, burning shops and cars and attacking police, witnesses said. Doctors in Karachi said at least 30 corpses had been brought to hospitals and more were expected. Fifty people were injured.

Authorities sent in troops to enforce an indefinite curfew on Hyderabad, 175 kilometres to the east, overnight and extended it to about one-third of Karachi Saturday morning.

It was the worst explosion of

violence for nearly two years in southern Pakistan, where ethnic riots have now taken some 600 lives since 1986.

No organisation has claimed responsibility for the Hyderabad attack, launched simultaneously in four or five different places late Friday.

But Mohajir militants in Karachi blamed Sindhi nationalists, who have engaged in bloody feuds with the majority Mohajirs in Hyderabad in recent months. Witnesses in Karachi told Reuters that in at least two areas the rioting was directed against Sindhis.

The Mohajir National Movement (MQM) said in a statement that the organisation's offices and the house of Hyderabad's Mohajir mayor were targeted by the gunmen, some of whom were masked.

But Syed Alam Shah, president of the left-wing Awami National Party, said the attackers had struck at both Mohajir and Sindhi communities.

Ali Hassan, a local resident of Hyderabad, who saw the violence, told the AP by telephone, "it was hell."

"The markets were full of people... when bullets were sprayed from a moving car. There was panic and people started running for shelter," he said.

He said 10 to 15 cars and jeeps opened fire in about 30 different parts of the city at the same time.

Hassan said the targets included public gatherings, a wedding, movie houses and bus stops. He said sirens wailed as ambulances raced through the streets ferrying the dead and wounded to hospitals.

"It was a very well-planned

attack and executed with perfection," Hassan said.

Ismail Baloch, a fish merchant and wounded survivor of an attack on a Karachi bus, said he and about 19 other Sindhis were riding from their village to the main harbour when armed Mohajirs stopped their bus near Karachi airport.

"They just started firing through windows and doors," he said from his bed at the city's Jinnah hospital.

Authorities responded in both cities by calling in army troops with machine-gun mounted jeeps and armoured personnel carriers.

Police imposed an indefinite curfew on Hyderabad, and calm was reported restored by Saturday morning as military patrolled the streets.

In Karachi, officials clamped a curfew on six neighbourhoods Saturday, but sporadic gunfire and rock-throwing were still being reported.

## Discovery gets down to routine business

HOUSTON (R) — The crew of the space shuttle Discovery Saturday resumed a light workload and practised for re-entry after a relatively trouble-free flight.

The mission is being touted as a near-perfect return to flight by the American manned space programme, grounded since the 1986 Challenger disaster.

"It's been a really good experience. We're having a lot of fun," said Flight Director Chuck Shaw late Friday after his ground control team ended their shift. "It's not been a hard flight to fly."

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) employees were delighted with the flight, Shaw said. Saturday's schedule included more work on an experiment designed to study lightning activity in storms and several photographic surveys.

One problem on the mission has been a clogged cooling system, called a flash evaporator and the astronauts may now be told to test it.

The system's vents are believed to have been blocked with ice shortly after lift-off. The Discovery's crew has been adding heat to the system to thaw the ice, but

there is no way of knowing if the system is clear without actually using it.

The flash evaporator system is normally used during lift-off and re-entry when the shuttle's huge door radiators are stowed and turned off.

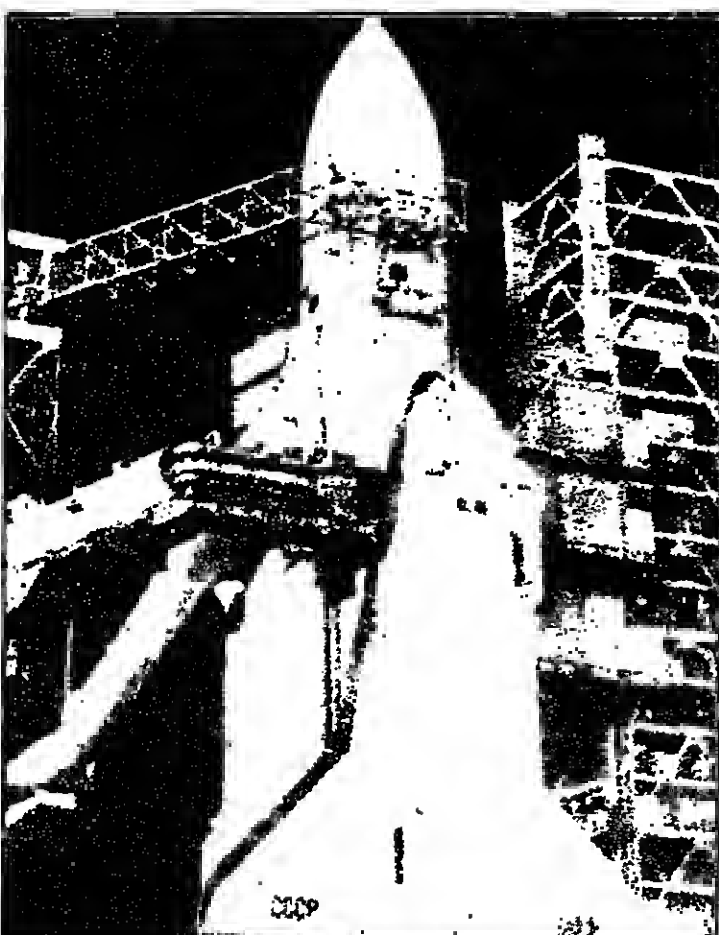
We know that the answer is "don't rush it," Shaw said of the problem. He added that NASA officials may decide to test the system Saturday or wait until re-entry to turn it on.

The only other significant problem during this mission was resolved Friday when a television dish antenna — not essential to the flight — was stowed away after it failed to align itself properly.

The mission's third day will coincide with the 30th anniversary of the founding of NASA.

The Discovery's success so far has been hailed as the rebirth of the U.S. space programme after the Challenger exploded seconds after lift-off Jan. 28, 1986, killing all seven crew members aboard.

The highlight of the mission, aside from a successful boost into orbit, was the perfect deployment Thursday of a \$100 million NASA tracking satellite.



Apparently timed to coincide with the launch of the U.S. space shuttle Discovery, the Soviet Union Thursday released this photograph of the Soviet reusable spacecraft Energia being prepared for launching in the USSR.

## IRA families appeal probe verdict

GIBRALTAR (R) — The families of three Irish Republican Army (IRA) guerrillas shot dead by British commandos have called on Dublin to intervene after a Gibraltar inquest decided the killings were justified.

Maureen Farrell, Danny McCann and Sean Savage were pumped with 27 bullets by four members of the elite Special Air Service (SAS) in the British colony March 6.

The 11-man jury decided 9-2 Friday that all three had been lawfully killed — a major victory for British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's fight against the

IRA. "We welcome the finding which speaks for itself," said a British government statement. Lawyer Michael Hucker, representing the SAS men, called it a "total vindication".

But the families of the victims said the government had got away with murder and urged Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughey to take the case to the European Court of Human Rights.

"It is a pyrrhic victory for the crown, and a travesty of justice," said Farrell's brother Niall. "It's now up to Haughey to take the case to the European Court of

Human Rights." He added that the families planned to start civil proceedings in Northern Ireland.

The Irish government said it was studying the jury decision and declined any immediate comment.

The verdict is bound to strain relations between London and Dublin, which has voiced concern over British security policy, and could overshadow upcoming Anglo-Irish talks on cooperation.

In Northern Ireland, Sinn Fein, the IRA's political wing, said the British government favoured



Emperor Hirohito

## Hirohito deteriorates

TOKYO (AP) — Emperor Hirohito's condition deteriorated Saturday after he lost a "considerable" amount of blood and his blood pressure dropped sharply for about 30 minutes, imperial officials said.

But the emperor's vital signs stabilised after doctors gave him a large blood transfusion, they said.

News reports said a Red Cross vehicle carrying blood entered the imperial palace again Saturday evening, but there was no immediate confirmation that the emperor had received another transfusion.

Imperial Household Agency Spokesman Kenji Maeda said the emperor, the world's longest-reigning monarch, discharged "a considerable amount of blood" from his bowels, a larger amount than in the past.

For about 30 minutes in the mid-afternoon, the emperor's blood pressure fell below 100, and doctors administered 600 cubic centimetres of blood, Maeda said. It was the ninth day in a row that Hirohito has been given blood.

Crown Prince Akihito and Crown Princess Michiko were summoned to the imperial palace and stayed for more than an hour, he said.

Prince Aya, Hirohito's second grandson, who arrived in Tokyo Saturday from London, where he attends Oxford University, also immediately visited the emperor.

Earlier Saturday, the emperor ate food for the first time in nearly two weeks, consuming five or six spoonfuls of a porridge made of arrowroot, an Imperial Agency official said.

## Ono: Lennon film true to life

LOS ANGELES (R) — Yoko Ono, the widow of rock star John Lennon, said Friday that a new documentary about the former Beatle was painful for her to see but painted a complete and accurate portrait of her husband.

"I tried to control my emotions and see it from an objective point of view, but obviously it was very painful for me," she told reporters at a news conference to promote the film, "Imagine: John Lennon."

But she added that the documentary, which will be released Oct. 7, had her complete endorsement.

"It is John. He was a very

complex person and all aspects of his emotions and his life have been covered. You will see from all different angles what John really was about," she added.

Ono's media advisor asked reporters not to question her about a controversial new biography — "The Lives of John Lennon" by Albert Goldman — which portrays the musician as a bisexual and drug addict who spent his last years as an anorexic recluse.

But Ono said she hoped the documentary would counteract the negative impression formed by the book.

"Imagine: John Lennon" was created from some 200 hours of

film, including footage of Lennon at home and in the studio that had not been released before.

"The complex nature of John Lennon is what comes out," said the film's director, Andrew Solt.

"The aim is to tell the story honestly... to do him justice in this film and not come out with a version that was Saint John of Liverpool."

Solt said the surviving three Beatles had seen the film.

"Ringo (Starr) was very emotional. He reacted rather strongly. George (Harrison) thought there was too much Beatles footage and Paul (McCartney) was extremely warm about John."

## Emperor's illness sparks rare flash of limelight on his family

By Eugene Moosa  
Reuters

TOKYO — Whilst the activities of most royal families regularly fill acres of newspaper, Japan's imperial family remains almost anonymous.

Names like Britain's Charles and Diana, Spain's Juan Carlos or even Monaco's Caroline and Stephanie are easily recognised around the world.

But how many have heard of Aya, Nori, Tomohito and Mikasa? The emperor's illness has brought all of them into the spotlight, some for the first time in years.

But a combination of the Japanese flair for self-effacement and reluctance to say anything newsworthy have combined to ensure that they will not remain there.

Palace officials have passed on to reporters the royals' comments after their visits to 87-year-old Hirohito's bedside, but they all seem to say much the same — that they were reassured by the visit. The same officials have been roundly criticised by government leaders and, increasingly, by Japan's press for their refusal to offer any real information on the illness now threatening the life of the world's longest-reigning monarch.

Unlike most royals around the world, members of Hirohito's family have spent their lives shielded from public scrutiny. They rarely grant audiences and when they do their characters

remain blurred behind courtly language that is usually non-committal and devoid of wit or humour.

Lively quotes for the newspapers are unheard of. "I hope you will do the best," is a favourite of the royal family when meeting an honoured subject.

The majority of the imperial clan, known as the Kozoku, are British-educated princes and princesses whose main roles are to support cultural, diplomatic and welfare societies.

"In many foreign countries where royalty are respected, members of our imperial family have a key role as non-political diplomats," one foreign ministry official said. "They are a definite asset."

Their expenses, which totalled some three billion yen (\$22 million) last year, are paid by the government.

The imperial family numbers about 20, including the 85-year-old wheelchair-bound empress Nagako who is widely believed to be sinking into senility.

Hirohito's 54-year-old heir, Crown Prince Akihito, is a fluent English speaker who has made it clear that he will try to blow some of the cobwebs from the palace corridors when he eventually mounts the Chrysanthemum throne.

Akihito's son, 28-year-old Prince Hiro, was at one time the object of what little press attention there has been. That was when

## Troops seal off Lhasa

PEKING (R) — Two hundred Chinese police armed with staves, shields and steel helmets sealed off the centre of Lhasa Saturday, the first anniversary of a bloody riot by Tibetans calling for independence from China.

Westerners in the city said police stopped residents from entering Barkhor Square, where stone-throwing crowds battled police armed with automatic weapons a year ago, and warned foreign tourists they would be arrested unless they kept away.

Police also patrolled the octagonal alley around the nearby Jokhang Temple, walking in the opposite direction to the constant stream of pilgrims which circles the shrine, the sources said.

China in June announced the founding of a special police detachment in Tibet to prevent riots and separatist agitation.

Most private shopkeepers closed their premises for the day fearing fresh unrest, the sources said. Oct. 1 is also the 39th anniversary of the founding of Communist China and a national holiday.

Lhasa authorities have this week appeared nervous of further trouble on the anniversary of the riot, in which a police station was razed and several people killed, some of them policemen and others protesters shot by police.

A Westerner in Lhasa said Friday the 1,000 Buddhist monks at the city's main monasteries, who led last year's unrest, had been forbidden by authorities to leave their quarters until Oct. 5.

On Tuesday police fired tear gas to prevent Tibetans demonstrating outside the Jokhang Temple after a small group of monks began shouting anti-Chinese slogans, the sources quoted witnesses as saying.

## Haiti opposition priest gains backing

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AP) — About 1,500 youths Friday protested the rumored overseas transfer of Reverend Jean-Bertrand Aristide, an opposition leader whose Roman Catholic Church was burned down and parishioners massacred two weeks ago.

The protesters marched five kilometres to the papal Nuncio's suburban home from the charred ruins of Saint Jean Bosco Church in La Saline slum.

The demonstrators unfurled a banner reading "Democracy in the church, democracy in the army."

Aristide, criticised by the church hierarchy for his radical views, narrowly escaped death Sept. 11 when thugs disrupted his

mass at Saint Jean Bosco Church, killing 13, wounding more than 70 and burning down the building.

Rank-and-file soldiers, outraged by the massacre, overthrew Lieutenant General Henri Namphy Sept. 17 and installed Lieutenant General Prosper Avril as president under a new military government, saying they wanted to end random state-sponsored violence and institute democratic reforms.

Reverend Jacques Mesidor, superior of the Haitian Salesian Fathers, denied rumours that Aristide will be ordered transferred out of the country. Aristide has been living in seclusion at a Salesian school, and has reportedly been suffering from se-

vere depression since the massacre.

### Paul retires

Meanwhile state-run television announced that the powerful colonel who controlled the largest and most-feared unit in Haiti's army was retired from his post in the military.

The brief announcement Friday night said Colonel Jean-Claude Paul was retired from the army and his post as commander of the 700-man Dessalines barracks, located directly across from Haiti's presidential palace in Port-au-Prince. It is the largest unit in Haiti's 7,000-member army.

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### Ruling party wins Sri Lankan poll

COLOMBO (AP) — A ruling party candidate was declared the winner of a provincial council by-election Friday, following the lowest voter turnout in Sri Lankan election, officials said. Election Commissioner Chandrananda de Silva said election for a provincial council seat, held Thursday, was won by M. Tillakaratne of governing United National Party, who received 83 per cent of the vote. But only 14 per cent of the registered voters cast ballots, he said. The turnout is the lowest in Sri Lankan history, where 70 per cent to 80 per cent of the electorate normally vote, the election commission said. A Sinhalese group had called for a boycott of the election to protest last year's signing of a peace accord aimed at ending the five-year-old war by Tamil militants for an independent homeland.

### Insight into Kaposi Sarcoma spread

WASHINGTON (AP) — Scientists studying Kaposi's Sarcoma have discovered a substance that gives new insight into how it spreads and might lead to improved treatments for the disease, which is the second-leading cause of death among AIDS victims. Dr. Robert Gallo, head of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), confirmed Thursday that an NCI team has isolated a protein they call "growth factor X" that opens new avenues of research. Moreover, the discovery tends to support a theory that Kaposi's Sarcoma may not be a true malignancy after all, as widely believed since it was discovered by 19th-century dermatologist Dr. Moritz Kaposi. Instead, Gallo said it might be huge, dense clusters of blood vessels and benign cells that only turn malignant in the final stages.

### Albania blasts superpowers' actions

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Albania Friday blamed the superpowers for sowing dissension in the world community even though they concluded arms treaties between themselves. Socialist Albania does not belong to either the Warsaw Pact or the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO). "Outside the U.N. the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, reached an agreement on missiles, which they advertised as a new phase in the field of disarmament," said Reis Malile, Albania's foreign minister. "Whereas here in the United States, in a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, the reasonable voice of the member states about this problem was ignored. 'This shows that the superpowers consider the issues of disarmament the exclusive domain of their competence and interests.'" Malile told the delegates to the 43rd General Assembly.

### Reagan library to be built

VENTURA, California (AP) — A county commission has approved plans for the \$45 million Ronald Reagan library, clearing the way for construction to begin before year's end on the nation's largest presidential library. The Ventura County Planning Commission voted unanimously Thursday to approve plans for construction of the library on a scenic 100-acre site about 56 kilometres northwest of downtown Los Angeles after no opposition to the project surfaced at a public hearing. It is scheduled to be completed by early 1992.

## COLUMN

### 3,500-year-old figurine unearthed

ATHENS (AP) — Archaeologists sifting through tonnes of discarded earth at a dig on Crete have found more fragments of a unique gold-and-ivory figurine already acclaimed as a masterpiece of Minoan sculpture. The ivory torso and arms of a young man were unearthed last year, partly buried in a fire that swept through a prehistoric town at Palaikastro on the island's eastern coast around 1,450 B.C. This summer, the excavators recovered more than 100 new fragments, including shreds of gold leaf from the figure's clothing, two finely modeled ivory feet, an ivory ear, and — most surprising of all — a stone head that they think would have fitted the missing ivory face at the hairline. "It's the figure of a young god," Sandy MacGillivray, co-director of the excavation, said in an interview Friday. "It's the most important Minoan sculpture ever found, and we want to recover as much of it as we possibly can."

### Homeless serve 'eviction notice'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Activists for homeless people served a homemade "eviction notice" on the office of North Carolina Senator Jesse Helms Friday, removed the furniture from his outer office and were led off in handcuffs. "Ooohhh, this chair feels good," chortled a homeless man identified as Lou Juluke, 56, settling into a brown leather upholstered, brass-studded chair in the middle of an upstairs hallway. Minutes later, a team of Capital Hill civil disobedience specialists in blue sleeveless sweaters, baseball-style caps and disposable rubber gloves moved in and arrested three other demonstrators who had removed the furniture. The demonstrators said Helms voted for budget cuts that left thousands of people unable to afford housing and deserved a symbolic taste of his own medicine.

### 'Dutch' Reagan back on airwaves

CHICAGO (R) — "Dutch" Reagan was back on the airwaves Friday, commenting on a baseball game just as smoothly as he did before he became famous at things like movies and politics. President Reagan dropped into the press box at Wrigley Field during a Chicago visit and helped announce a Chicago Cubs-Pittsburgh Pirates game for one inning. His appearance with the Cubs broadcast team was also piped out live by a national television news station so that a nationwide cable audience got to hear how Reagan handled play-by-play developments. "And there goes a ball down over second base and it's a hit out into centre field one run is in" the stand-in announcer said. He got a lot of practice at this sort of thing as a young baseball announcer known as "Dutch" Reagan on WHO radio in Des Moines, Iowa, in the 1930s. From there, Hollywood beckoned.

### Astronauts favourite foods, drink

EDWARDS AIR BASE, California (R) — The five astronauts on board the space shuttle Discovery are eating their way round the world on such exotic dishes as beef almondine, shrimp creole and Turkey tetrazzini. But the most requested item on the global menu is black coffee. NASA revealed Friday what the astronauts are eating in orbit. Most meals come dry, and the astronauts add water. David Hilmers, a mission specialist, ate turkey tetrazzini Friday and has ordered teriyaki chicken for Saturday. Another specialist, George "Pinky" Nelson, is having a breakfast of Mexican scrambled eggs, a spicy version of plain scrambled eggs, each day. He starts all his dinners with shrimp cocktail. Mission specialist John Lounge is a pudding freak. He is eating his way through chocolate pudding, vanilla pudding and butterscotch pudding.

### Community battles to save whales

AUGUSTA, Australia (AP) — Housewives, fishermen and conservation officers worked frantically early Friday to save 39 whales stranded on a remote beach on the west coast of Australia. They said 21 of the beached mammals had already died near Augusta, 240 kilometres south of Perth in western Australia. The volunteers and others, numbering about 100, stroked the creatures and kept them moistened and upright through the night to calm them and keep them from drying out or drowning.